

discussion of the gallop sound or the repeated use of "microphotograph" and "stethoscope." It seems at least a little inconsistent to "prefer not to tell a patient his pressure unless it is being controlled" (page 381) while requiring self-determination of pressure levels during attempted control by Hyphex (page 484). The use of Rauwolfia is conspicuous by its interesting and nearly total absence from the discussion on therapy.

One somehow misses the broader clinical viewpoint which might have been supplied by more attention to such writers as Ayman. A medical student might even believe from this book, for example, that most hypertensive patients need Hyphex; such an error would not be entirely the fault of the student unversed in the lore of hypertension. For those more advanced who wish the record of Schroeder's work, the volume is highly recommended.

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A SOURCE-BOOK OF MEDICAL TERMS. Edmund C. Jaeger, D.Sc., formerly Head, Department of Zoology, Riverside College, Riverside, California, Charles C. Thomas, publisher, Springfield, Illinois, 1953. 145 pages, illustrated, \$5.50.

In this book one may find the origin and meanings of medical terms. The author has assembled the numerous word elements, combining forms, prefixes and suffixes from which modern medical terms have been coined. With each entry examples are given. These, in turn, are broken down into their basic formative elements, a very helpful etymological treatment.

There is little attempt to write formal definitions. The author is inquiring into the origin and literal meaning of words, their applications in special cases, their history, and how they happen to be spelled as they are. The book therefore does not replace a medical dictionary—but it is a valuable supplement.

An introductory section on word-building deals with the basic principles used in the construction of medical words. This can be useful to the student who has had classic languages and then relegated them to his past. (The author recommends it to medical students with the unworthy suggestion that it will be a life saver in examinations!)

The physician interested in etymology will get great pleasure from glancing or browsing through this book. Those interested in medical writing will do well to study it. It can help avoid many of the errors indulged in by those of us whose medical technique is superior to our grammatical technique. The book is at its best when the author is most interested and explains a term in detail or by means of line drawings.

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THE YEAR BOOK OF DRUG THERAPY (1953-54 Year Book Series). Edited by Harry Beckman, M.D., Director, Departments of Pharmacology, Marquette University Schools of Medicine and Dentistry, The Year Book Publishers, Inc., 200 East Illinois, Chicago, 1954. 538 pages, \$6.00.

This generally excellent Year Book is heartily recommended to the practicing physician who has not the time to keep closer contact with the literature on therapeutics.

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A TEXTBOOK OF PATHOLOGY—An Introduction to Medicine—6th Edition. William Boyd, M.D., Dipl. Psych., M.R.C.P. (Edin.), F.R.C.P. (Lond.), F.R.C.S. (C.), LL.D. (Sask.), D.Sc. (Man.), M.D. (Oslo), F.R.S. (C.), Professor of Pathology, University of British Columbia, Lea and Febiger, Philadelphia, 1953. 1024 pages, 570 illustrations and 32 color plates, \$12.50.

It is safe to say without documentation that Boyd has been read profitably and with delight by the majority of English-speaking physicians and medical students. The mas-

terful command of descriptive writing, the remarkable aptness of metaphor and synonym and the facile readability of the author's style have won and retained for this book its great popularity. Dr. Boyd is to be commended for achieving a significant reduction in the length of the volume at a time when more and more massive new and revised texts appear to be the fashion. A nice sense of relative importance of new ideas, experimental results and factual observations is essential to this end. In this edition, at least 80 items have been added, 20 or more sections have been rewritten completely, and an entirely new section on the skin has been prepared. Seventy additional illustrations and three new color plates have been inserted. All of this has been achieved without loss of continuity, break in style or noticeable conflict.

It is true of the present editions, as well as of the former ones, that many of the black and white figures might be improved; the color plates are not nearly as good as could be achieved. Although many pathologists disagree with various assertions in the text, the intelligent medical student need not be compromised by accepting the generalities as expressed.

This reviewer believes that Dr. Boyd has achieved his goal: a pathology textbook that introduces students to the study of medicine.

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PEDIATRIC GYNECOLOGY—With Sections on Urology and Proctology—3rd Edition. Goodrich C. Schauffer, M.D., Assistant Clinical Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology, University of Oregon Medical School, The Year Book Publishers, Inc., 200 East Illinois Street, Chicago, 1953. 318 pages, \$7.50.

This new edition, appearing six years after the previous one, allegedly represents a complete revision of the text. However, a careful comparison with the previous edition discloses that this is hardly the case. While the length of the book seems to have been decreased by some sixty pages, this has been accomplished by the use of smaller type and by deleting an appendix which listed commercial hormone preparations. A short discussion of the embryological development of the female genitalia, written by an anatomist, has been added as a new chapter. As for the rest of the text, it has been changed here and there by the addition or deletion of a few words, but it really hasn't been revised with any thoroughness. It contains the same discussions of vulvar irritations, masturbation, vaginitis, and problems related to uterine bleeding, or the lack of it, occurring at puberty. Contributors other than the senior author have provided short chapters on pediatric surgery, urology and proctology, and there are two final sections dealing with social and medicolegal aspects of pelvic disease in the young female.

There are a number of things in this volume which are at variance with modern gynecological thought and some of the therapeutic recommendations are phrased in such vague, albeit flowery, language that the reader will find little to aid him in dealing with specific problems. Many of the illustrations are not particularly good and quite a few are badly reproduced. The only new ones are two used in the chapter on embryology, and the only deletion was a full-page plate showing the technique of circumcision. As in the previous edition, the book closes with an appendix listing state agencies administering services to children by virtue of the Social Security Act. This list is offered to assist physicians in solving social problems related to sexual misconduct toward children or by children.

Your reviewer's opinion of this book has not been elevated by the new edition and it cannot be recommended in its present form. Undoubtedly there is a need for a reliable monograph on gynecological disorders in children, and it is hoped that the current volume ultimately will fill this need by virtue of a thorough and painstaking revision.